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THE

PLAN

OF THE

PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY

For the Encouragement of

MANUFACTURES

AND THE

USEFUL ARTS.

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THE PLAN OF

The Pennſylvania Society, for the Encouragement of Manufactures and the Uſeful Arts.

THE wealth and proſperity of nations principally depend on a due attention to agriculture, manufactures and commerce. In the various ſtages of her political exiſtence, America has derived great advantages from the eſtabliſhment of Manufactures and the uſeful Arts. Her preſent ſituation in the world calls her by new and weighty conſiderations to promote and extend them. The United States, having aſſumed the ſtation of an independent government, require new reſources

reſources to ſupport their rank and influence both abroad and at home. Our diſtance from the nations of Europe,—our poſſeſſing within ourſelves the materials of the uſeful arts, and articles of conſumption and commerce,—the profuſion of wood and water, (thoſe powerful and neceſſary agents in all arts and manufactures)—the variety of natural productions with which this extenſive country abounds and the number of people in our towns and moſt ancient ſettlements, whoſe education has qualified them for employments of this nature,—all concur to point out the neceſſity of our promoting and eſtabliſhing manufactures among ourſelves.

FROM a conviction of the truth and importance of theſe facts, a number of perſons have agreed to aſſociate themſelves under the name of THE PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF MANUFACTURES AND THE USEFUL ARTS.

FOR

FOR the purpoſe of carrying their views into effect they have adopted the following conſtitution.

I.

EVERY citizen of the United States of America, who ſhall ſubſcribe this conſtitution or ſignify his aſſent thereto by letter, ſo long as he ſhall fullfil the engagements thereof, ſhall be conſidered as a member of the ſociety.

II.

THE preſident of the ſtate, for the time being, ſhall be the patron of the inſtitution.

III.

THE ſociety ſhall be govern'd by a preſident, four vice-preſidents and twelve managers. Their other officers ſhall be two ſecretaries, a treaſurer and a committee for manufactures, all of whom (except the committee for manufactures) ſhall be choſen annually by ballot by a majority of the members convened

at

at a general meeting on the 20th day of January, with the due exception of Sunday.

IV.

THE preſident (or in his abſence one of the vice-preſidents) ſhall preſide at the meetings, and ſubſcribe the public acts of the ſociety, and ſhall have the power of calling general meetings when he ſhall deem it neceſſary, or when ſix members ſhall requeſt it.

V.

THE board of managers (of which the preſident and vice-preſidents in virtue of their offices ſhall always be a part) ſhall be governed in the ſame manner as is already preſcribed for the ſociety at large and in the abſence of the preſident and all the vice-preſidents, they ſhall chuſe a chairman for the occaſion. Seven of the whole ſhall be a quorum. They ſhall meet once in every month, and may be ſummoned ſpecially by the preſident, or in his abſence by either of the vice-preſidents.

preſidents. Their duty ſhall be to offer and confer premiums, to collect and diſſeminate uſeful information, to examine into the modes of manufacturing at the factories in order to increaſe the advantages and remove the difficulties, under which they may be conducted, to diſpoſe of all the monies of the ſociety, except what ſhall be ſpecially ſubſcribed for the purpoſe of manufacturing, and generally to do ſuch other things as will promote the deſign of the inſtitution.

VI.

It ſhall be the duty of the ſecretaries to attend all general meetings of the ſociety, and of the preſident, vice-preſidents and board of managers. They ſhall keep regular minutes of the proceedings and ſhall do ſuch other things from time to time as appertain to their office.

VII.

Every member, on his admiſſion, ſhall pay to the treaſurer the ſum of ten ſhillings, at leaſt,

leaſt, and the ſame ſum annually during his continuing a member, which ſhall go into THE GENERAL FUND, to defray the neceſſary expences of the Society, to confer premiums and to accompliſh every other ſalutary meaſure conſiſtent with the deſign of the inſtitution.

VIII.

For the better employment of the induſtrious poor, and in order to render the ſociety as uſeful as poſſible, a ſubſcription, for ſums not leſs than ten pounds from any one perſon or company, ſhall be immediately opened to all perſons whatever, for the purpoſe of eſtabliſhing factories in ſuch places, as ſhall be thought moſt ſuitable. Theſe ſubſcribers ſhall be entitled to all the profits attending the buſineſs, and ſhall be the ſole owners of all the lots of ground, buildings, implements, raw materials, and other things, purchaſed or paid for out of their ſubſcriptions, which ſhall be called, THE MANU-

FAC-

FACTURING FUND. They ſhall hold occaſional meetings for the management and improvement of their practical affairs, at ſuch times and places as they ſhall determine on, in which meetings the preſident or vice-preſidents of the Society (provided they ſhall be ſubſcribers to the fund) ſhall preſide, unleſs prevented by abſence, in which caſe they ſhall chuſe a chairman for the occaſion.

IX.

THE manufacturing committee ſhall conſiſt of twelve members, who ſhall be choſen by ballot annually, by a majority of *the ſubſcribers to the manufacturing fund only*, convened at a meeting of the ſaid ſubſcribers, to be held (with the due exception of Sunday) on the day next following the general meeting of the Society for the election of officers. This committee ſhall have the ſole diſpoſition of the ſaid fund, and ſhall conduct the factories in ſuch manner as they ſhall think moſt adviſable, ſubject however

to ſuch regulations and inſtructions as ſhall be given to them from time to time by the ſubſcribers to the manufacturing fund. They ſhall chuſe a chairman and hold meetings once in every month, or oftener, if ſummoned by their chairman, on application to him from any two of their board. They ſhall make careful obſervation on every circumſtance attending the various branches, which they may carry on and report to the preſident, vice-preſidents and managers, ſuch difficulties, advantages and improvements as their practice and experience ſhall ſuggeſt.

X.

THE ſhares in the manufacturing fund ſhall be transferable; but all transfers, except thoſe by will, ſhall be atteſted by the preſident, one of the vice-preſidents, a notary public, or a juſtice of the peace: provided, that no proprietor of a ſhare ſhall be permitted to vote at any election for officers, who

who ſhall not produce, at ſuch election, a certificate of his being a member: and, in order to entitle the perſon to whom the transfer is made, to vote, it muſt be made at leaſt ten days before ſuch election.

XI.

THIS Society will hold itſelf *in duty bound* to correſpond and ſteadily co-operate with ſuch ſimilar inſtitutions as now are, or hereafter ſhall be eſtabliſhed in others of the United States.

XII.

FOR the general purpoſes of the inſtitution, a quarterly meeting ſhall be held once in every three months, on the 20th day of January, April, July and October, with the due exception of Sunday.

XIII.

THE board of managers and the committee for manufactures, reſpectively, ſhall account annually

annually to the Society, for the diſpoſition of the funds ſeverally intruſted to their management.

XIV.

No alteration in this conſtitution ſhall be made, without the conſent of two-thirds of the members convened at a general meeting of the Society called for the purpoſe.

THE END.

The Officers Name may be added with advantage —